

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5228
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2000
INDO-PAK WAR
VIJAY GOEL

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the report regarding Indo-Pak War in 1965 published recently in various newspapers;
- (b) whether Government had decided earlier not to publish the said report;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether a report of Indo-Pak War in 1965 by a retired senior army officer has also been published in some newspapers;
- (e) whether the two reports are contradictory to each other;
- (f) if so, the steps being taken to publish and release a correct and authenticated report with a view to keep factual information in this regard on record; and (g) whether the Government like-wise, propose to publish the history of Indo-China War in 1962 and Indo-Pak War in 1971?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): Considering the contents and continuing relationship with Pakistan, release of the official version of the Indo-Pak War for general publication had been deferred in the past.

(d) to (f): Lt General (Retd) Harbaksh Singh the then GOC-in-C Western Command, had published a book titled "War Despatches Indo-Pak Conflict, 1965" in 1991. The second publication "In Line of Duty - a Soldier Remembers" has also been recently published. Incidents & strategies of the battle in this sector covered in the official history of the 1965 war also appear to have been covered in the private publications. No comparative study between the private publications and the official history of the war has been made.

(g) No decision has been taken to publish the history of Indo-China War in 1962 and Indo-Pak War in 1971.